



Cotton System Consumption and Stocks

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Highlights

August 2018 contained 31 days.

September 2018 contained 30 days.

Extra long staple cotton consumed on the cotton system was 1.10 million pounds in September 2018, up 9 percent from August 2018 but down 18 percent from September 2017. September 2018 stocks on hand on the last Saturday of the month totaled 1.70 million pounds down 13 percent from August 2018 and down 13 percent from September 2017.

Total Manmade fiber consumed on the cotton system was 36.0 million pounds during September 2018, down 1 percent from August 2018 but up 38 percent from September 2017. Of the total manmade fiber consumed, 93 percent was polyester staple.

Total number of spindles on the cotton system was 1.30 million during September 2018. Active spindles consuming 100 percent cotton was 640,000 in September 2018, down 4 percent from August 2018 and down 6 percent from September 2017.

Consumption and Stocks – United States: September 2018 with Comparisons

Item	September 2017	August 2018	September 2018
Extra long staple			
Consumed			
Running bales number	2,658	2,034	2,208
Weight 1,000 pounds	1,342	1,010	1,103
Stocks on hand (last Saturday of the month)			
Running bales number	3,885	3,912	3,394
Weight 1,000 pounds	1,943	1,947	1,698
Rayon and acetate staple			
Consumed 1,000 pounds	1,025	740	1,104
Stocks on hand (last Saturday of the month) 1,000 pounds	1,086	1,801	1,670
Polyester staple			
Consumed 1,000 pounds	23,326	34,092	33,354
Stocks on hand (last Saturday of the month) 1,000 pounds	21,090	23,508	20,587
Other manmade fiber staple			
Consumed 1,000 pounds	1,751	1,701	1,548
Stocks on hand (last Saturday of the month) 1,000 pounds	2,024	3,137	3,298

Spindles in Place, Active Spindles and Spindle Hours Operated – United States: September 2018 with Comparisons

Item	September 2017	August 2018	September 2018
Cotton-system spindles in place			
Ring spindles 1,000	949	952	952
Airjet spindles 1,000	33	29	29
Open-end spindles 1,000	315	314	314
Cotton-system spindles active			
Spindles consuming 100% cotton 1,000	682	664	640
..... million hours	461	462	435
Spindles consuming 100% manmade fiber 1,000	41	35	37
..... million hours	23	20	20
Spindles consuming mixtures or blends 1,000	536	560	583
..... million hours	354	369	383

Statistical Methodology

Survey Procedures: *Cotton System Consumption and Stocks* is part of the Current Agricultural Industrial Reports (CAIR) program. CAIR reports are administered under NASS's Census of Agriculture program. Response to CAIR surveys are required by law (Title 7, U.S. Code). Data are collected from all known mills that consume cotton.

The census universe was determined during operation profile interviews which were completed for each potential facility to identify the presence of cotton consumption and spindle activity in 2014.

In the Cotton and Manmade Fiber Staple survey questionnaires, mills are asked for previous calendar month data on cotton and manmade fiber consumed, stocks and spindle activity. Mills are mailed questionnaires with the options of completing the survey by mail or by Electronic Data Reporting (EDR). For surveys not received in a reasonable amount of time, telephone follow-up is conducted.

Estimating Procedures: Imputation is done for operations with non-response by using historical data and current data relationships. Data for reporting firms are added to estimates for non-reporting firms to obtain National totals.

Revision Policy: Data are revised the following month based on late reports or corrected data. Final figures are published in the annual summary of the following year.

Reliability: Approximately 50 reports are received each month which represent about 95 percent of total spindles. Monthly data can vary due to different firms reporting month to month. Survey data are also subject to non-sampling errors such as omissions and mistakes in reporting and in processing the data. While these errors cannot be measured directly, they are minimized by carefully reviewing all reported data for consistency and reasonableness.

Information Contacts

Listed below are the commodity statisticians in the Crops Branch of the National Agricultural Statistics Service to contact for additional information. E-mail inquiries may be sent to nass@nass.usda.gov.

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